

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 17-32 and add new claims 33-59 as follows:

Claims 1-32 (Canceled).

Claim 33 (New). A gaming table for use with electronic memory microchip gaming chips, comprising:

a tabletop including a gaming chip storage area and at least one gaming chip testing area;

at least one test station including a communication unit adapted to exchange information with a memory of a gaming chip in said gaming chip testing area by an antenna device disposed at least one of on and in said tabletop, the communication unit being associated with a processing unit for processing information contained in said memory; and

at least one display device for displaying an output message obtained from the processing unit and based at least in part on information contained in said memory, said display device including a screen at least one of on and in said tabletop,

wherein the display device is physically separate from a casing of said test station and the gaming chip testing area and the screen of the display device are close together, beside said storage area and in reach and in view of an operator of the table.

Claim 34 (New). The gaming table according to claim 33, wherein the screen of the display device is a flat screen mounted flush with the tabletop.

Claim 35 (New). The gaming table according to claim 33, wherein the tabletop has one of a rectangular or pseudo-rectangular shape with two longer sides, wherein said tabletop comprises a proximal operator side carrying said storage area, which is also one of a rectangular or a pseudo-rectangular shape, and a distal customer side, and wherein the gaming chip testing area is in the vicinity of a shorter side of said storage area.

Claim 36 (New). The gaming table according to claim 35, wherein the gaming chip testing area and the screen of the display device are substantially on respective opposite sides of a substantially distal corner of the storage area.

Claim 37 (New). The gaming table according to claim 35, wherein the screen of the display device has a single display line parallel to the proximal operator side of the tabletop.

Claim 38 (New). The gaming table according to claim 33, wherein the communication unit is one of wholly or partially under the tabletop of the gaming table and said test station also incorporates in its casing the processing unit which has

an output connected to the display device.

Claim 39 (New). The gaming table according to claim 33, wherein the chip storage area is a chip rack.

Claim 40 (New). The gaming table according to claim 39, wherein the gaming chip testing area is located beside a tip box.

Claim 41 (New). The gaming table according to claim 39, wherein two gaming chip testing areas are disposed laterally on either side of the chip rack and are combined with one of, a screen that is centrally located with respect to the chip rack, or with two lateral screens.

Claim 42 (New). The gaming table according to claim 41, wherein said one of the screen or two lateral screens is/are placed immediately in front of the chip rack on a customer side of the gaming table.

Claim 43 (New). The gaming table according to claim 33, further comprising, on the tabletop of the gaming table, other areas for one of a) electronically reading or b) electronically reading and writing gaming chips associated with antennas having appropriate multiplex connections to the test station and via said test station to the

screen of the display device.

Claim 44 (New). The gaming table according to claim 43, wherein one of the a) electronically reading or b) electronically reading and writing areas comprise gaming stations of the gaming table.

Claim 45 (New). The gaming table according to claim 33, wherein the gaming table comprises one of a blackjack, baccarat, minibaccarat or stud poker gaming table, a gaming table for games derived from the above games, a cash table or a change table.

Claim 46 (New). A gaming table for use with electronic memory microchip gaming chips, comprising:

- a tabletop including a gaming chip storage area and at least one gaming chip testing area;

- at least one test station including a communication unit adapted to exchange information with a memory of a gaming chip in said gaming chip testing area by an antenna device disposed at least one of on and in said tabletop, the communication unit being associated with a processing unit for processing information contained in said memory;

- at least one display device for displaying an output message obtained from the processing unit and based at least in part on information contained in said memory,

said display device including a screen at least one of on and in said tabletop; and

on the tabletop of the gaming table, other areas for one of a) electronically reading or b) electronically reading and writing gaming chips associated with antennas having appropriate multiplex connections to the test station and via said test station to the screen of the display device,

wherein the display device is physically separate from a casing of said test station and the gaming chip testing area and the screen of the display device are close together, beside said storage area and in reach and in view of an operator of the table;

the screen of the display device is a flat screen mounted flush with the tabletop;

the tabletop has one of a rectangular or pseudo-rectangular shape with two longer sides, wherein said tabletop comprises a proximal operator side carrying said storage area, which is also one of a rectangular or a pseudo-rectangular shape, and a distal customer side, and wherein the gaming chip testing area is in the vicinity of a shorter side of said storage area;

the gaming chip testing area and the screen of the display device are substantially on respective opposite sides of a substantially distal corner of the storage area;

the screen of the display device has a single display line parallel to the proximal operator side of the tabletop;

the communication unit is one of wholly or partially under the tabletop of the gaming table and said test station also incorporates in its casing the processing unit

which has an output connected to the display device;

two gaming chip testing areas are disposed laterally on either side of the chip rack and are combined with one of, a screen that is centrally located with respect to the chip rack, or with two lateral screens; and

said one of the screen or two lateral screens is/are placed immediately in front of the chip rack on a customer side of the gaming table.

Claim 47 (New). A gaming room surveillance equipment comprising at least one gaming table according to claim 33, wherein at least one display duplicator device is associated with said display device of said gaming table and a second screen external to the gaming table can be viewed by a second gaming room operator.

Claim 48 (New). The gaming room surveillance equipment according to claim 47, wherein the display duplicator device is near the location of said second gaming room operator who is one of a table chief or a table supervisor.

Claim 49 (New). The gaming room surveillance equipment according to claim 47, wherein the display duplicator device is integrated into a video surveillance system of a gaming room by one of a serial external interface, an IP network or an analogous network, with embedded display on screens of video monitors of one of a gaming room surveillance or a security staff.

Claim 50 (New). The gaming table according to claim 46, wherein one of the screen or two lateral screens is/are placed immediately in front of the chip rack on a customer side of the gaming table.

Claim 51 (New). A method for utilizing a gaming table with electronic memory microchip gaming chips, comprising:

- providing a tabletop including a gaming chip storage area and at least one gaming chip testing area;

- providing at least one test station including a communication unit adapted to exchange information with a memory of a gaming chip in said gaming chip testing area by an antenna device disposed at least one of on and in said tabletop, the communication unit being associated with a processing unit for processing information contained in said memory; and

- providing at least one display device for displaying an output message obtained from the processing unit and based at least in part on information contained in said memory, said display device including a screen at least one of on and in said tabletop,

- wherein the display device is physically separate from a casing of said test station and the gaming chip testing area and the screen of the display device are close together, beside said storage area and in reach and in view of an operator of the table.

Claim 52 (New). The method of utilizing a gaming table according to claim 51, further comprising positioning the communication unit one of wholly or partially under the tabletop of the gaming table and said test station also incorporating in its casing the processing unit which has an output connected to the display device.

Claim 53 (New). The method of utilizing a gaming table according to claim 52, further comprising positioning the gaming chip testing area beside a tip box.

Claim 54 (New). The method of utilizing a gaming table according to claim 52, further comprising positioning two gaming chip testing areas laterally on either side of the chip rack and combining them with one of, a screen that is centrally located with respect to the chip rack, or with two lateral screens.

Claim 55 (New). The method of utilizing a gaming table according to claim 54, further comprising placing one of the screen or two lateral screens immediately in front of the chip rack on a customer side of the gaming table.

Claim 56 (New). The method of utilizing a gaming table according to claim 51, wherein on the tabletop of the gaming table, associating other areas for one of a) electronically reading or b) electronically reading and writing gaming chips with antennas having appropriate multiplex connections to the test station and via said test

station to the screen of the display device.

Claim 57 (New). A method of utilizing a gaming room surveillance equipment comprising providing at least one gaming table according to claim 51, comprising associating at least one display duplicator device with said display device of said gaming table and a second screen external to the gaming table can be viewed by a second gaming room operator.

Claim 58 (New). The method of using a gaming room surveillance equipment according to claim 57, further comprising integrating the display duplicator device into a video surveillance system of a gaming room by one of a serial external interface, an IP network or an analogous network, with embedded display on screens of video monitors of one of a gaming room surveillance or a security staff.

Claim 59 (New). The method of utilizing a gaming table according to claim 54, wherein said at least one of the screen or lateral screens is/are placed immediately in front of the chip rack on a customer side of the gaming table.